Collection Protocol for the Notre Dame Tree Genetics Core Facility
MSU chestnut genotyping project

Tissue types

Twigs

Collect 4-6 undamaged twigs no larger than a standard-sized pencil in diameter, each 4-8 inches long. Twigs suitable for scion wood are suitable for DNA extraction. The best time for twig harvest is when the tree is fully dormant but spring and summer twigs are also good. Autumn twigs are the least desirable.

Leaves

Collect 2-5 undamaged, intact leaves. For compound leaves, 3-5 leaflets. Leaves may be harvested from spring until late summer. Do not send the tiny, unexpanded leaves of early spring or autumn leaves even if they are green.

Packaging

Package leaves and or twigs in individual zip lock bags (one bag per tree) with the ID marked on the outside of the bag and on a slip of paper inside the bag. If the leaves or twigs are harvested wet, pat dry before placing in the bag. The ID you give the tree will be recorded in our database so please print in neat block letters. Leaves and twig samples from the same tree can go into the same sample bag.

Include a bill of lading with the shipment summarizing what you know about the samples: GPS location, suspected species and any other information you would like to include. Package all the bags and the bill of lading in a Styrofoam or other insulated box with one or two frozen cold packs, **not loose ice**. Ship overnight by FedEx or UPS. We support the US post office but request that you not use the postal service for this purpose.

Shipping

Ship on Sunday through Wednesday. Do not ship on Thursday or Friday. Ship to:

Lauren Fiedler
Laboratory Technician
Department of Biological Sciences
320 Galvin Life Science Bldg
Notre Dame, IN 46556
Phone: 574-631-4019

Please send email to Lauren.E.Fiedler.6@nd.edu when you send the shipment and include the tracking number so we can follow the shipment. An electronic version of the bill of lading, or a spreadsheet listing all the information in the bill of lading, along with sample IDs, sent as an email attachment, will be greatly appreciated. This is not necessary but does minimize mistakes.